PROC. ENTOMOL. SOC. WASH.
91(4), 1989, p. 640

NOTE

Black Walnut, *Juglans nigra*: A New Host Record for *Colaspis favosa* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae)

Colaspis favosa Say is a small, metallic-green, eumolpine chrysomelid that is widespread in the southeastern United States (Blake. 1977. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 79: 209). Adults of *C. favosa* have been associated with several species of woody plants including apple (*Malus* spp.), silverleaf scurfpea [*Psoralea argophylla* (Walt.) Cory.] (Douglas. 1929. J. Kansas Entomol. Soc. 2: 10), wax myrtle (*Myrica* sp.) (Kirk. 1970. South Carolina Agric. Exp. Stn. Tech. Bull. 1038, Part 2. p. 88; Chapin. 1979. Coleopts. Bull. 33: 450), azalea (*Rhododendron* sp.) (Loding. 1900. Geol. Surv. of Alabama Monogr. 11: 1), blackberry (*Rubus* spp.), live oak (*Quercus virginiana* Mill.) and pine (*Pinus* spp.) (Kirk. op. cit.). Except for Loding's (op. cit.) mention of *C. favosa* as a pest of azaleas, it is not clear whether other host records for this insect represent 1) instances in which *C. favosa* actually fed upon the plant listed or 2) incidental captures on a non-food plant (e.g. pine is a suspect record given the preponderance of angiosperm records for this apparently oligophagous insect).

During early June 1988, I collected adults of *C. favosa* from black walnut (*Juglans nigra* L.) trees growing in a small grove in Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia. I observed beetles feeding on black walnut foliage both on the tree and when confined in petri dishes with fresh leaflets. Feeding was restricted to leaflet margins and damage to trees was negligible since beetles were present in low numbers. This is the first record of *C. favosa* feeding upon foliage of black walnut. Host plant and insect voucher specimens have been deposited in the herbarium and insect museum at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg.

Reported hosts of *C. favosa* (e.g. *Myrica* sp. and *Rhododendron* sp.) were absent from the vicinity of the black walnut grove from which I collected beetles (the grove is surrounded by several kilometers of agricultural land), suggesting that the use of black walnut by this species was not just a temporary shift from a preferred primary host to an adjacent secondary host. Rather it is possible that black walnut may be a significant but overlooked host plant for *C. favosa* in the southern Appalachian Mountains, particularly since plants of the genus *Myrica* [apparently important coastal plain hosts (Chapin op. cit.)] are absent from this region (Harvill et al. 1986. Atlas of the Virginia Flora. p. 97). Interestingly, the Myricaceae and the Juglandaceae are placed into the order Juglandales by some authors (Benson. 1959. Plant Classification. p. 316) suggesting a close relationship between these two plant families.

I thank Dr. M. C. Thomas of the Florida Department of Agriculture, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida, for identifying *Colaspis favosa*. K. Williams and an anonymous reviewer provided useful comments on the manuscript.

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